KEEP LAKE BEAUTIFUL MEETING September 24, 2018

The Keep Lake Beautiful Committee met on Monday, September 24, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. in the Board of County Commissioner's Meeting Room, Lake County Administration Building, Tavares, Florida. Chairman, Darla Scoles was present. The Municipal representative in attendance was Dina Sweatt. The School Board member in attendance was Gary Rogers. The Civic Organization member in attendance was Melissa Simmes. The Citizen Representative in attendance was Lavon Silvernell. The Business owner/Chamber Rep in attendance was Earl Hammond. The Staff Representatives in attendance were Nicholas Mcray, Stormwater Project Manager; Barbara Maines, KLB Executive Director and Sandy Beckett, Office Associate.

PLEDGE

Chairman Darla Scoles led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT AND DISCUSSION

No public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Darla Scoles asked the committee to approve the minutes from the previous meeting that took place on July 23, 2018. Minutes were approved unanimously.

COMMITTEE AND STAFF UPDATES

Nick Mcray welcomed new committee member Mr. Gary Rogers. He will be our representative from the School Board. Nick also introduced Barbara Maines as the new KLB Executive Director.

Darla Scoles asked Barbara to tell a little about herself, and then asked each committee member to do the same.

COMPLETED PROJECTS UPDATE

Barbara Maines gave an overview of completed projects. The numbers were not in yet for the Sorrento Community Clean Up on September 22nd. The reusable grocery bags were given out to people who brought stuff in.

Barbara said we received 18 cigarette disposal receptacles from Phillip Morris. Fifteen of the receptacles were given to the Parks Department and they dispersed them to various parks in the County. Barbara said in the future we will try and get grants to buy automobile receptacles that could also be used in boats.

PENDING PROJECTS AND DISCUSSION

Barbara Maines went over the pending projects. On October 13th near the Crooked River Preserve in Clermont, KLB will partner with the Lake County Adopt-a-Lake Program and the Lake County Water Authority to host a clean-up event. Volunteers will use canoes/kayaks to clean up along the shorelines and surrounding roadways. This will not be a drop-off event.

On November 3rd at the Central Landfill Facility, KLB along with Solid Waste and FDEP will sponsor a Tire Amnesty Day from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Residents may dispose up to 24 passenger car tires.

Barbara said KLB has a pending \$24,000 grant for fertilizer education. It will be used for getting the word out in front of everybody via flyers, ads, radio etc. Would also like to get a KLB promise campaign going. This would be on the website for people to sign up to be a responsible fertilizer user. Another part would be some surveying of people to see where they get their information from on fertilizer use.

Darla Scoles asked how the audience would be picked for the survey.

Nick Mcray said we would partner with some local retailers and some big box stores. We would try and get a couple hundred volunteers to do the surveys with property owners.

Barbara Maines talked about the County Adopt-A-Roadway program that we are going to cross promote. Looking for groups to take over 1-2 miles of roadway to cleanup. They would have to do it 4 times a year minimum. Youths would have to have adult supervision.

Earl Hammond suggested making it a competition as to who is doing the most or best clean-up. This would promote some more motivation for the program.

Lavon Silvenell said anything that could build community comradery would be good.

Barbara Maines talked about Litter Prevention Education for school age children. She said there is a lot of material on the Keep America Beautiful and Keep Florida Beautiful sites that she is starting to go through. She would like to make the material available to teachers. The goal is to start educating young regarding litter prevention.

Dina Sweatt asked if we had got in touch with the Key Club for help.

Barbara Maines gave an update on the litter prevention signs on Piccolo Rd. They were installed by Road Ops. We are looking into getting grants to have more signs put up in the worst areas. Looking into regulatory and educational signage.

OTHER DISCUSSIONS

Dina Sweatt said one of her council members and some citizens are planning a unity day in Groveland sometime in March 2019. There would be a festival and they would like to get Keep Lake Beautiful involved to do a cleanup.

Darla Scoles suggested sending a thank you letter to the Lake County firefighters and the venom team for all of their help at the cleanup event on September 22nd. All community members were in agreement on sending the thank you letter.

Melissa Simmes said she drove by Lake Gracie in Eustis that Commissioner Campione had mentioned in the last meeting. She said it is in need of something.

Nick Mcray said he will be meeting with the City of Eustis Public Works Director tomorrow and will ask him what their thoughts are and what direction they are going in regarding Lake Gracie.

Lavon Silvernell said the Ocklawaha Valley Audubon society (OVAS) is planning a festival on October 13^{th} in downtown Eustis. Also on the 12^{th} , 13^{th} and 14^{th} they will have field trips around Lake County to visit our natural areas.

Darla Scoles asked if we had the results from the litter survey.

Nick Mcray said he would follow up with her at the next meeting.

Nick Mcray reminded everyone that the next meeting would be November 26th. Starting in January the meetings will be quarterly.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to address, the meeting was adjourned at 10:02 am until the next meeting on November 26, 2018.

DARLA SCOLES, CHAIRMAN

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